

## Chapter 18 Fuels Management 2006 Changes

### Chapter/Page 18-1; Line 27-32; Release January 2006

The following chapter outlines the similarities in fuels management between the DOI agencies and the USDA Forest Service. However, there exist some programmatic differences that are identified in the following agency specific documentation and serve as agency specific direction.

- ? *BLM - Refer to BLM 9214 Prescribe Fire Handbook and the 9215 BLM Fire Training Handbook.*

### Chapter/Page 18-2; Line 8-9; Release January 2006

All fuels treatment projects will be in compliance with ? ~~NEPA requirements,~~ federal, state, and local environmental regulations and requirements.

### Chapter/Page 18-2; Line 36-38; Release January 2006

? These WUI areas should be identified in Community Wildfire Protection Plans that are developed through collaboration between federal agencies, communities, and other interested parties.

### Chapter/Page 18-2/3; Line 39-4; Release January 2006

- **WUI fuel reduction projects**  
WUI fuel reduction projects mitigate the risks to people, their communities, and adjacent resource values important to the social/economic stability of those communities from unwanted wildland fire. The National Interagency Fuels Coordination Group has defined valid WUI fuel treatment projects as those projects that meet the following criteria:
  - They must focus on communities at risk that are published in the *Federal Register* ? ~~or are identified as future communities by local collaborative efforts.~~ or as defined by State Foresters, or are priority hazardous fuels treatment projects identified by local collaborative efforts or defined within a Community Wildfire Protection Plan. ~~as future communities by local collaborative efforts.~~

### Chapter/Page 18-9; Line 2-9; Release January 2006

#### Tracking and Reporting

Accountability (for monies spent and results achieved) is expected and closely monitored from within and outside the departments. The Wildland Fire Leadership Council has established NFPORS as the required interagency system to assist field, state, regional, and national personnel in managing and reporting accomplishments for work conducted under the National Fire Plan. ? ~~State or local air quality agencies may also require additional reporting.~~

**Chapter/Page 18-10; Line 9-16; Release January 2006**

- **Wildland Fire Use**  
Acres burned in a wildland fire may only be reported as a fire use treatment if the unit has an approved Fire Management Plan allowing Wildland Fire Use, and the fire was managed as a Wildland Fire Use incident with an approved Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP). Limited suppression or confinement fire acres may not be counted as fire use accomplishments. ? WFU is reported in the NFPORS hazardous fuel module.

**Chapter/Page 18-10; Line 18-27; Release January 2006**

- **Planned Treatments Burned in a Wildfire**  
Acres burned in a wildfire may only be reported in NFPORS as prescribed fire if all the following conditions are met:
  - The area burned was in a pre-existing NFPORS treatment unit.
  - The formal planning (NEPA, Burn Plan, etc.) had already begun to treat the unit.
  - The planned resource objectives were met.
  - The claim is approved by a Regional Fuels Specialist.
  - ? Fuels program dollars for the unit treated by wildfire should be reallocated to other projects.

**Chapter/Page 18-10/11; Line 29-6; Release January 2006****Fuels Management Performance Measures**

? The fuels management targets and accomplishments to be tracked are contributing programs reporting in NFPORS.

- Total number of acres treated both in the WUI and Hazardous Fuels all condition classes.
- Total number of acres treated in the WUI.
- Total number of acres treated in condition classes 2 or 3 in fire regimes 1,2,3 outside the WUI.
- Total number of acres treated /total cost.
- Total number of RX fires conducted that result in violations/total # of RX fire treatments.
- Total number of acres treated in condition class 2 moved to condition class 1.
- Total number of acres treated in condition class 3 moved to condition class 1 or 2.
- Total number of acres moved to a better condition class per million dollars of gross investment.
- Number of acres treated by mechanical methods.
- Number of acres treated mechanically with by-products utilized.
- Number of projects implemented through (local) contractors.
- Number of communities at risk with completed risk assessments and mitigation plans/ total number of communities listed.

- Total number of WUI communities at risk with fire prevention programs in place/total number listed.
- Number of WUI communities at risk that initiated volunteer, community funded, or cost-share efforts to reduce hazardous fuels.
- Refer to agency specific direction.

~~The fuels management targets and accomplishments to be tracked are defined as:~~

- ~~Total number of acres treated both in the WUI and Hazardous Fuels all condition classes.~~
- ~~Total number of acres treated in the WUI.~~
- ~~Total number of acres treated in condition classes 2 or 3 in fire regimes 1,2,3 outside the WUI.~~
- ~~Total number of acres treated /total cost.~~
- ~~Total number of RX fires conducted that result in violations/total # of RX fire treatments.~~
- ~~Total number of acres treated in condition class 2 moved to condition class 1.~~
- ~~Total number of acres treated in condition class 3 moved to condition class 1 or 2.~~
- ~~Total number of acres moved to a better condition class per million dollars of gross investment.~~
- ~~Number of acres treated by mechanical methods.~~
- ~~Number of acres treated mechanically with by products utilized.~~
- ~~Number of projects implemented through (local) contractors.~~
- ~~Number of communities at risk with completed risk assessments and mitigation plans/ total number of communities listed.~~
- ~~Total number of WUI communities at risk with fire prevention programs in place/total number listed.~~
- ~~Number of WUI communities at risk that initiated volunteer, community funded, or cost share efforts to reduce hazardous fuels.~~
- ~~Refer to agency specific direction.~~

#### Chapter/Page 18-11; Line 14-21; Release January 2006

##### Plan Contents

The Prescribed Fire Plan is a stand alone document that provides the Prescribed Fire Burn Boss all the information needed to implement the project. Prescribed fire projects must be implemented in compliance with the written plan. At a minimum, a listing of the required elements to develop a burn plan can be found in all the agency specific direction documents:

- **BLM - ?** *Refer to BLM 9214 Prescribe Fire Handbook and the 9215 BLM Fire Training Handbook.*

**Chapter/Page 18-12; Line 1-10; Release January 2006****Determination of Complexity**

The NWCG *Prescribed Fire Complexity Rating System Guide* is the agency standard for rating prescribed fire complexity. A complexity rating will be completed for each prescribed fire project. The determination of the prescribed fire complexity will be based on an assessment of risk (the probability or likelihood of an unexpected event or situation occurring), and technical difficulty (the level of skills needed to complete the project and deal with expected events).

- *NPS - Refer to RM 1, chapter 10 for specific agency direction.*
- *BLM - ? Refer to BLM 9214 Prescribe Fire Handbook and the 9215 BLM Fire Training Handbook.*

**Chapter/Page 18-13; Line 26-35; Release January 2006**

*BLM - Prescribed Fire Burn Boss 3 (RXB3): As a supplement to the qualifications system, the BLM has identified this position. ~~This position supervises prescribed fire operations that are of?~~ "low complexity." These types of operations typically would have few personnel assigned, have a very low threat of escape, and present a minimal risk to the people involved in the operation.*

**Chapter/Page 18-13; Line 38-41; Release January 2006**

Physical fitness standards are defined in 310-1 *Wildland Fire Qualification System guide*.

- *FS - Refer to FSH 5109.17.*

~~Physical fitness levels are not established by the NWCG. The agencies have established physical fitness levels. Refer to agency specific direction~~

- ~~*FS - Refer to FSH 5109.17 for agency specific direction.*~~
- ~~*BLM - ? Refer to BLM 9214 Prescribe Fire Handbook and the 9215 BLM Fire Training Handbook.*~~

**Chapter/Page 18-14; Line 1-7; Release January 2006****Prescribed Fire Monitoring**

A monitoring plan is required as part of each Prescribed Fire Plan. It describes what data will be collected, when it will be collected, where on the prescribed fire site it will be collected, which methods will be used for each data element, and list the responsible person(s). The requirements for prescribed fire monitoring are found in the agency specific policies. Refer to agency specific direction. *? Monitoring of air quality impacts should be conducted where needed.*

**Chapter/Page 18-16; Line 18-28; Release January 2006****Escaped Prescribed Fire**

Escaped prescribed fires will receive an administrative review. The level and scope of the review will be determined by the injuries, damage, and cost associated with the escape.

A prescribed fire that escapes and requires an expenditure of suppression funds or results in property damage, injuries, or fatalities will be investigated. The following guidelines apply to escaped prescribed fire reviews:

Refer to agency specific direction.

- **BLM - ?** Refer to *BLM 9214 Prescribe Fire Handbook* and the *9215 BLM Fire Training Handbook*.